

**Category #47:**

The Guidelines should define “cleaning”.

**State Response:**

OGS does believe there is a need to define cleaning. The Guidelines define environmentally sensitive cleaning and maintenance products as well as best cleaning management practices.

**Frequently Asked Public Comment:**

Definition of Cleaning

--First, I suggest you define cleaning. Cleaning is the systematic process of putting unwanted matter in its proper place so as to achieve a clean condition. Clean is an environmental condition free of unwanted matter-- solids, liquids, gases, or living organisms, that have the potential to cause an adverse (health) effects. Cleaning is the most basic form of environmental management. It is the fundamental process employed to keep the living and non-living substances in surroundings at acceptable risk levels so as to protect health and enhance or enable human activity.

The cleaning process has a basis in sound science. It comprised of the following components:

1. Specifying an environment--a place or an object to be made free of pathogens or pollution;
2. Locating and identifying unwanted matter, pathogens or pollutants, in that environment;
3. Separating and containing the pathogenic matter so as it can be remove from the environment;
4. Transporting and removing the pathogenic or unwanted substance from the environment; and
5. Properly disposing or repositioning the unwanted matter.

(Michael A. Berry, PhD, Chapel Hill, North Carolina)